

CARLTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

•• ANNUAL REPORT ••

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1896.

NOTTINGHAM :

JOHN DONCASTER, PRINTER, CARLTON STREET.

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CARLTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1896.

CHAIRMAN - - Mr. HENRY BARKER, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN - Mr. JOHN LEWIN.

Messrs. T. E. ALDER,
 GEO. ARMSTRONG,
 JNO. BELL,
 WM. BRETTLER,
 SAML. I. GODFREY,
 JNO. GRETTON,
 WM. HUCKERBY,

Messrs. GEO. KAYE,
 FRANK KEYWOOD,
 EDWARD KNIGHT,
 ALFD. JAS. SMITH,
 JNO. EDWD. TRUMAN
 WM. WRENCH.

Clerk - JAS. KIRK CLARK.

Medical Officer of Health - J. T. KNIGHT.

Surveyor - R. WHITBREAD.

Inspector of Nuisances - CHAS. F. BREARLEY.

Collector of General District Rate - WM. PECK.

Librarian - H. J. HOPKINSON.

Caretaker of Offices and Free Reading Room, E. OGLE.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARLTON.

GENTLEMEN,

It would perhaps be useful to commence my report for 1896 by repeating what I have stated in former reports respecting certain characteristic features of the district with which you as residents in the locality are well acquainted.

The Urban District of Carlton, whose area is 1,400 acres, consists of two main divisions or wards, Carlton and Netherfield, which differ in some respects from each other. The Carlton Division is chiefly located on a more or less steep declivity; the natural facilities for surface drainage are good, and this is fortunate, as the subsoil is very retentive, and consists of stiff clay. The industry of hand-made hose, which formerly was a flourishing staple trade in this division has greatly declined, but the brickyards, railway, and other works in the neighbourhood afford employment to a large number of the inhabitants. There is a good number of old people in the place, and many of these have suffered from the long continued depression in the hosiery trade, in which they have been engaged in the past.

The Netherfield Division is comparatively speaking a new district, having increased rapidly in size and population during the last decade. It lies somewhat low, is very level, but has a porous gravelly subsoil. The majority of the men are employed on the railways; and old age and poverty are rather notably absent.

The whole district is well supplied with good water, and sewage and surface water drains. There are still some wells used for drinking purpose, which I think might, with advantage be dispensed with, and replaced with a supply of Nottingham Corporation water. Milksellers and Dairymen especially should use the purest water for cleansing purposes, having previously sterilized it thoroughly by boiling. There are not to my knowledge any cesspits in the district, a dual system of sewage and surface water drainage being in vogue. Tub closets have been adopted extensively of late, in the place of ashpits. A necessary onslaught has been made on foul ashpits, which during the late wet season became conspicuously objectionable. The tub closet system, if it is to be retained, is capable of improvement, which ought to be effected, and in no instance should an empty tub be returned in a dirty state, and if by any mischance the contents of tubs should be spilt in course of removal, such offensive matter should be carefully and immediately removed, and the place cleansed. The water and drainage facilities of the district warrant, in my opinion, as far as possible, the adoption of a clean water carriage system, whereby the sewage is taken right away, and no scavenging is required.

The population of the District as taken at the census of 1891 was 6,914; Carlton having been credited with 4,266, and Netherfield 2,648: but the estimate for the Carlton Division included the occupants, about 250 in number I believe, of the new wing of the Nottingham Borough Asylum, which is situated on the outskirts of the parish, and is not now in the same registration district. I have not included these persons in my estimate of the population for the middle of 1896, nor referred to them in any other sta-

tistics for the year. My estimate of the population for the whole District at Midsummer 1896 is 7,500,—of Carlton, 4,200, and Netherfield, 3,300. In a District like this, such an estimate must necessarily be but an approximate and imperfect one, as the increase of population has been caused by other means than mere excess of births over deaths; and I am inclined to think I have rather under than over estimated the number of inhabitants.

The usual Tables of Statistics of births, deaths and sickness, are attached to the end of this report.

There have been 113 deaths, and a death rate of 15·06, and 257 births, and a birth rate of 34·26, as against 138 deaths, a death rate of 18·9, and 225 births, and a birth rate of 30·82, in the year 1895.

The births in 1896 consisted of 127 males, and 130 females. There were 5 illegitimate births, 3 males in Carlton, and 2 females in Netherfield.

A satisfactory feature of the death statistics, is the number of children under 1 year of age who have succumbed, compared with other years. During 1896 there were 29 such deaths, or at the rate of 112 per 1,000 registered births; the rate in 1895 having been 177, when there were no less than 40 deaths of infants under 1 year of age.

Of the 29 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, 14 occurred in Carlton, and 15 in Netherfield. In Carlton there were 72 deaths, and in Netherfield 41, at all ages; the death rate of the former having been 17·14, and of the latter 12·42. There were 20 deaths of persons over 65 years of age, 19 in Carlton, and 1 only in Netherfield; and of people over 60 years of age, 23 in Carlton, and only 4 in Netherfield, so

that the much greater proportion of such, what I may term, inevitable deaths in the former division, which contains an older population than the latter, accounts in a great measure, for the difference in their respective death rates. The lowest number of deaths occurred between the ages of 5 and 25 years.

Zymotic diseases, including Diarrhœa caused 19 deaths, and a zymotic death rate of 2·5, as against 25 such deaths, and a zymotic death rate of 3·4 in 1895.

The deaths from zymotic diseases were as follows :—

		Carlton.	Netherfield.
Scarlatina	..	0	1
Diphtheria	..	1	0
Typhoid Fever	..	1	0
Erysipelas	..	1	0
Measles	..	5	7
Whooping Cough	..	1	0
Diarrhœa	..	2	0
		—	—
Totals	..	11	8
		—	—

The zymotic death rate of Carlton was 2·3, and of Netherfield 2·4. In 1895, the zymotic death rate of the former was 2·6, and of the latter, 4·4.

Two deaths from Influenza occurred in Carlton, that of 1 person aged 70 in February, and the other aged 17 years in May. There have been 2 inquests, and 2 uncertified deaths. Rheumatic Fever caused 2 deaths in Netherfield; Phthisis, 9 deaths in Carlton, and 2 in Netherfield; Bronchitis, Pneumonia & Pleurisy, 7 in Carlton, and

3 in Netherfield ; Heart Disease, 5 in Carlton, and 4 in Netherfield ; and injuries, 1 in Netherfield. Cancer caused 4 deaths, 1 male and 2 females in Carlton, and 1 female in Netherfield, all over 48 years of age ; in the previous year, there were 10 deaths from this cause, 8 in Carlton, and 2 in Netherfield.

The 1 death from Scarlet Fever occurred in Netherfield in February ; there was 1 death from Diphtheria in Carlton in May, 1 death from Typhoid Fever in Carlton in September, and 1 death from Erysipelas in Carlton in December.

The deaths from Measles occurred thus :—6 in Netherfield during the 2nd, and 1 during the 3rd quarter of the year ; and in Carlton, 3 during the 3rd, and 2 in the last quarter,—so that altogether 12 deaths occurred from this disease, that is 2 more than the number of deaths from Scarlet Fever during the epidemic of the latter disease in the year 1895. Measles is not notifiable, but the fatal results of the epidemic prove what a formidable and very infectious malady it is. By way of prevention, all the public schools were closed for several weeks. Whooping Cough caused 1 death in Carlton in March ; and Diarrhœa, 2 deaths in Carlton, 1 in August, and the other in September.

Table B at the end of the Report shows the number and nature of the notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year. There have been in all 52 notifications, 14 relating to Carlton, and 38 to Netherfield. There were 28 notifications of Scarlet Fever received in the following order :—

1st quarter: 2 in Carlton, and 7 in Netherfield.

2nd quarter: 0 in Carlton, and 3 in Netherfield.

3rd quarter: 0 in Carlton, and 7 in Netherfield.

4th quarter: 2 in Carlton, and 7 in Netherfield.

Altogether a total of 4 in Carlton, and 24 in Netherfield. Of these 28 cases treated at their homes, one was fatal, giving a death rate of 3·5 per cent. of the whole number of cases notified. Of course in some instances, 2 or 3 of these cases occurred in the same house; for example, during the last quarter of 1896, the Netherfield cases were represented by 3 in one house in Curzon Street, 2 in one house in Dunstan Street, and 2 in one house in Victoria Road, 3 houses altogether having been affected. One explanation of the predominance of this disease in Netherfield being that a much larger proportion of children at school age, who congregate in large numbers in the schools, exists in Netherfield than in Carlton.

There were 12 notifications of Diphtheria—2 from Carlton, and 10 from Netherfield; one of the reasons for the difference in this respect is the same as that adduced with regard to Scarlet Fever; but another is the effect of the heavy rainfall and its consequent dampness, on a level and somewhat low-lying locality. Of course, as I have on former occasions pointed out, offensive drains and ashpits, the latter often becoming more obnoxious in wet than dry weather, and the keeping of animals and fowls in a dirty state, favour the propagation of this and other throat diseases.

There were 6 cases of Typhoid Fever notified, 5 in Carlton, and 1 in Netherfield; of which 1 in Carlton was fatal. The chronological order of the Typhoid Fever noti-

fications were as follows:—1 each in Carlton and Netherfield in January; 1 in Carlton in August; 2 in Carlton in September; and 1 in Carlton in November. With regard to the first case of Typhoid Fever, the well water was objectionable, and Nottingham Corporation water was substituted. In the second case, the only discoverable defect was the loose brick pavement of the back yard, permitting slops and spilt contents from the tubs, to collect: this was remedied. In the third and fatal case there was nothing wrong about the dwelling, but the butcher's premises, where the young man worked, were not in a satisfactory condition. In the fourth case no likely cause was discovered. The youth worked at Nottingham. The fifth case was that of a girl who lived close to the butcher's premises where the young man who succumbed to this disease worked, a well—not above suspicion—provided the drinking water. In the sixth case the premises were satisfactory, but well water was used for drinking. In none of the cases was there reason to suspect the milk supply.

Six cases of Erysipelas were notified, 3 in Carlton, and 3 in Netherfield; and 1 death from this disease occurred in Carlton in December, the affected person having been a man over 83 years of age, who resided near the butcher's premises referred to in connection with the Typhoid Fever cases. The Inspector of Nuisances has inspected this property, and reported thereon, but owing to the severe illness of the landlord, some delay has occurred in reference thereto. The water from the well on this property was slightly tainted, and of a suspicious character. The necessity of boiling the water previous to drinking it, has been pointed out to all concerned.

There is still no Isolation Hospital for infectious diseases available for this District. The advantages of a good Isolation Hospital are indisputably great. Better nursing, and a larger amount of air space and light, are provided than can be procured at any rate, by the poor in their own houses. But Isolation Hospitals must not be expected to provide accommodation for all affected during an epidemic; nor to arrest epidemics, which, on account of the insidious undetected character of some mild cases of infectious diseases, continue to spread in spite of every precaution. For instance, there are cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever so mild and indefinite, that scarcely any feeling of illness is present; these escape recognition, but are infectious. A bacteriological examination of the mucous from a suspected throat in many instances, will alone determine whether it is Diphtheria or not. Another advantage derived from the use of an Isolation Hospital, is that the house from which a case has been taken, can be immediately disinfected; and further, the wage earners need not be then hampered by any restrictions which might be imposed, in consequence of the presence of an infectious case in their houses.

Hospitals for consumption in healthy situations near large populations, would be of great benefit, for consumption is undoubtedly infectious, especially in ill ventilated dwellings. Mild and severe cases might be kept apart.

I am afraid that this is rapidly becoming an unvaccinated community, as far as children are concerned; and therefore means to cope with Small Pox at the very outset, should a case occur, should be available. A Disinfecting Apparatus, would be useful, and is one of the things needed.

In at least one instance sewage from dwellings enters a storm-water culvert, and is thereby conveyed to the brook which passes through Carlton, polluting the stream : this should be remedied.

Amongst other matters requiring attention are the deplorably damp and unwholesome state of several of the private streets of the district ; the necessity for further ventilation by shafts of some of the sewers ; also an improvement of the present system of scavenging ; with regard to the latter subject, I think a step in the right direction has been taken, by having the work directly under control, through employing the Council's own servants, instead of less responsible persons under contract.

The work of the Sanitary Committee directly, and Council generally, in the future in respect to sanitary matters, will be of great importance, and require quite as much attention as has been necessary in the past. The Inspector of Nuisances, Mr. Brearley informs me that 120 nuisances have been abated on private properties, and 60 notices have been served during the year. The arrangement by which the Inspector of Nuisances attends at the Depot near Netherfield twice a week, and once a week at the Public Offices, Carlton, is a good one, and calculated to suit the convenience of those requiring his services.

A large number of unwholesome cesspits, and imperfect iron D traps, have been replaced by earthenware gulleys in the back yards.

The sewers which are connected with the main sewer, carrying the sewage from Nottingham to the Sewage

Farm at Stoke Bardolph, have been regularly flushed and disinfected throughout the warm season, and the roads have been well watered.

The bakehouses and slaughterhouses have been inspected. I have examined 11 samples of well water during the year, with the following results ; fair quality, 5 ; slightly polluted, 5 ; bad, 1.

Lastly, I am pleased to bear testimony to the attention which has been paid to health matters during the past year, and to thank you, gentlemen, and my fellow officers for the courtesy I have always received.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. KNIGHT.

Table of Deaths, Births, &c. during the past ten years in the whole District.

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Small Pox ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Measles ..	5	0	3	1	1	4	0	1	0	12
Scarlatina ..	0	3	1	0	0	0	6	1	10	1
Diphtheria ..	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	5	1
Croup ..	0	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	2	0
Whooping Cough ..	5	1	5	5	4	4	0	8	0	1
Typhoid Fever ..	6	0	2	2	3	1	8	1	0	1
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	4	1	1	1	0	5	4	1	6	2
Rheumatic Fever ..	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Erysipelas ..	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	1	1	1
Puerperal Fever ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Phthisis ..	5	12	9	8	5	8	14	12	5	11
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	22	17	18	22	16	18	20	15	20	10
Heart Disease	4	10	7	14	12	9	4	12	8	9
All other diseases and injuries ..	69	57	47	48	62	71	36	58	80	62
TOTAL ..	121	103	94	103	107	124	90	114	138	113
General Death Rates ..	18·61	15·6	14·58	15·37	15·47	16·81	13·04	16·28	18·9	15·06
Zymotic Death Rates ..	3·23	·9	2·01	1·61	1·73	2·5	2·3	2·28	3·4	2·5
Number of regd. births	270	288	259	277	246	233	269	249	225	257
Birth Rates ..	41·53	43·63	40·19	41·34	35·5	34·36	38·98	35·57	30·82	34·26
Deaths of children under 1 year of age	56	43	28	32	34	41	33	35	40	29
Proportion of above to number of deaths at all ages—about ..	·46	·41	·29	·31	·32	·35	·36	·30	·28	·25
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births regd. ..	207	149	108	115	138	175	122	140	177	112

(B) *Table of Population, Births, and of new cases of Infectious Sickness, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1896, in the Carlton Urban District; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.*

Names of Localities adopted for the pur- pose of these statis- tics; Public Institu- tions being shown as separate localities	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.			
	Census 1891	Estimated to middle of 1896			Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Enteric or Typhoid	Erysipelas
Carlton	4266	4200	124	Under 5 5 upwds.	4	2	5	3
Netherfield	2648	3300	133	Under 5 5 upwds.	6	3	1	3
		Excluding Asylum.			18	7		
	Including New Wing of Borough Asylum.							
Totals.....	6914	7500	257	Under 5 5 upwds.	6 22	3 9	6	6

